

The Prairie Light Review

Volume 13

Number 2 *Peak Through The Window*

Article 65

Spring 5-1-1994

Recycling

Michael Puljung
College of DuPage

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dc.cod.edu/plr>

Recommended Citation

Puljung, Michael (1994) "Recycling," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 13 : No. 2 , Article 65.
Available at: <https://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol13/iss2/65>

This Selection is brought to you for free and open access by the College Publications at DigitalCommons@COD. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Prairie Light Review by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@COD. For more information, please contact orenick@cod.edu.

Recycling

Michael Puljung

The photographs and love letters
were first to go,
in with the yellowed newspapers,
like confetti.

His hopes and emotions
were placed into the glass bin,
after carefully removing their labels.

His memories
bounded one-by-one with the milk
and soda bottles.

And the greasy wads
of anger and self-pity
were run through the disposal
with plunger thrust, washed away,
leaving only a sticky film behind.

He knew his regrets
wouldn't go down easy,
so he tucked them between
copies of *National Geographic*.

The days wasted
went into a bottle, marked for old stories.
All that remained was her.

Too big for the drain,
Too colorful for the faded headlines,
and too voluptuous for the plastic.

He tried to put the memory
of her eyes, like blown glass,
into the bin, but he couldn't forget them.
Perhaps the grocery store
would give him a refund.